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# EUROPE

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On Sunday, the 11th, the 100,000 people who gathered in the city of Leningrad for the funeral of the late Premier Nikita Khrushchev, the first time in the history of the Soviet Union that a funeral procession had taken place in the streets of a city, were told that the funeral would be held in the city of Leningrad, the capital of the Soviet Union, and that the funeral would be held in the city of Leningrad, the capital of the Soviet Union, and that the funeral would be held in the city of Leningrad, the capital of the Soviet Union.

## ASIA

## South Koreans Told to Develop Modern Weapons

President Pak has said privately that he ordered South Korean scientists to proceed with a program to develop, by 1977, "atom bombs," rockets, and other modern weapons. Funds for the initial work on these weapons reportedly have been allocated in the proposed defense budget for next year. The new budget will be presented to the legislature in October.

Despite Pak's apparent strong personal commitment and an ambitious nuclear power program, Seoul is not likely to be able to develop a nuclear device before 1980 at the earliest. The development of an effective nuclear weapons capability by that time seems out of the question.

At present, the South Koreans lack the facilities to implement Pak's goals. The country's two research reactors, which are not capable of producing enough plutonium for a nuclear device, are under international safeguards as are two enriched uranium-fueled power reactors under construction near Pusan. South Korea is negotiating with Canada to purchase two natural uranium reactors that are better suited for plutonium production.

South Korea is entirely dependent on foreign sources for reactor fuel and has neither uranium processing nor chemical separation facilities. Seoul is seeking technology in Europe and Japan with an eye to constructing a chemical separation plant.

Minister of National Construction Yi Nak-son recently told several colleagues that South Korea has been planning, since at least 1969, to develop the capacity to construct an atomic bomb or warhead by the late 1970s. According to Yi, one of the options that the Koreans are considering is to divert fissionable waste secretly from a power reactor. Even if this could be accomplished by violating international safeguards, South Korean scientists

would still face considerable difficulties producing nuclear weapons.

Pak reportedly has expressed a desire to produce missiles with a range of about 270 miles. He recognizes South Korea's limited ability to develop and produce such a missile, but hopes to import some components from abroad for local assembly. A member of Seoul's Agency for Defense Development is in the US learning how to set up a missile range and finding out about equipment requirements and costs.

Pak's desire to obtain advanced weapons probably is part of his overall effort to develop military strength against the day when US military forces depart Korea. Pak may have intended that his statements reach US officials.

Pak's statements could be intended to spur the US into providing additional conventional weapons in return for a pledge not to develop nuclear weapons. He also might be hoping to extract from the US a restatement of US guarantees to defend Korea. Pak may feel those guarantees have been brought into question by criticism of his domestic policies in the US Congress and press.

In any event, it appears unlikely that Seoul will soon ratify the Non-Proliferation Treaty. A recent editorial in a newspaper influenced by the South Korean intelligence agency stressed that Seoul no longer could accept the view that humanitarian concerns preclude the spread of nuclear capabilities.

